



ESTABLISHED 1857-NEW SERIES.

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MAN OF RESOURCE.

Active Service of Gen. T. W. Sweeney, as Told by His Letters.

YANKEE JOURNALISTS.

Men Who Were Making History in Missouri.

LYON'S HESITATION.

The Battle of Wilson's Creek and Death of Lyon.

EDITED BY W. M. SWEENEY (HIS SON), ASTORIA, N. Y.

(Continued from last week.)

LITTLE PAPER was printed at Lebanon, Mo., June 28, 1861, and was entitled the *Illustrated News*, and contains some clever little skits and timely news. Some of the boys took possession of a printing office, as they state in the salutatory, whose newspaper "editor found it convenient to yamose his Secession ranch, and as we could both stick type and handle the quill after a fashion, we at once resolved on the amusement of getting up a paper.

"We cannot go into detail upon our future course, for we are those who count upon actions rather than words. But of this thing we feel certain, that coming 'columns' will sufficiently 'justify' any matter which we shall leave to be 'set up.' One pledge we will make, and that is that no 'Secesh' will hereafter

VENTURE TO WRITE TREASON where we 'lock up the chase.' Following are some extracts from the columns:

If the good Union men traveling through this town do not stop at the Washington House, kept by C. W. McCull, late of St. Louis, they may expect the Brigade Staff to be 'down on them.' Vice versa, if Mr. McCull talks to continue a good Union man, the entire brigade may be down on him, regardless of expectations.

We found this town strongly fortified. In one drug store were three mortars, all mounted.



The above cut (a mortar) will give a better idea of their caliber and efficiency than any description we can give. They are said to have dealt death to hundreds.

A lad named Jefferson Davis, brought up and for a long time supported by his uncle, has been guilty of the greatest ingratitude toward his relative, and actually attempted to plunge a dagger to the old gentleman's heart. The scoundrel is to be hung, as he deserves to be.

A fugitive slave named C. F. Jackson has escaped from his master in Missouri, and has not been recovered. He was greatly frightened by meeting a Lyon in his path, and turned so suddenly pale that it is said he might possibly be mistaken for a white man where he is not known.

TO THE AMERICAN FLAG. (Dedicated to Gen. Sweeney on the entrance of his brigade into Lebanon.) All hail to the banner that floats over the free, Its stars and stripes proudly blending, Threefold in its beauty, may it typify be, Of Liberty, Union, and Peace over-riding. But when in the frenzy of passion and pride The mad hand of treason is raised, Let war swell her trumpet, be rebels defied, Through courage and blood boldly bear it.

Its white is the emblem of purity's rest, Its blue is the heaven of a Nation's soul, Its stars and stripes proudly blending, Threefold in its beauty, may it typify be, Of Freedom and Union succeeding. —ELLA.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 25, WAR OFFICE, 4 P. M.—Richmond has been taken. It was done at just 2:30 o'clock this p. m. P. 8.—It was taken by a photographer from a hill just west of the city. The picture is said to be a good one.

RICHMOND, June 25.—Forty Columbiads have just been placed in the fortifications which are being erected to protect our city. They are magnificent pieces of ordnance, and were cast at the Tredegar works. Unfortunately, by a slight mistake, they were cast out at the breech, but the proprietors of the Tredegar Works promise to send on the touch-holes as soon as they will be needed.

BOLIVAR, June 28.—Gov. Jackson is here with 45,000 men, exclusive of musicians. He has entrenched himself, and thrown up earthworks around a space of 5,000 acres, and has picked guards thrown out over the country for at least 24 miles. He is in daily expectation of the approach of Lyon with a force of 1,500 men, when he proposes to risk all upon a fight. He has just taken a drink.

BOONEVILLE, June 28.—Clay Jackson returned here this afternoon. He asserts upon his honor that when he left Booneville, he had no idea that a battle would take place, and that being in poor health, he thought the climate of Arkansas would prove of benefit to him. He took a drink. Expresses the opinion that Missouri is about played out. Took another drink.

BOONEVILLE, June 28.—Jackson has just taken another drink.

FORT SMITH, June 28.—Governor Smith ar-

rived here last night and immediately took a drink. He then called upon Gen. Ben McCull, who is encamped near here with an army of 30,000 men. He will march to Missouri at once, and "win it!" Gen. Lyon, Gen. Sweeney, and the Union party generally. He and the Governor have just taken a drink.

In a letter to Mr. Bodge Sweeney tells some interesting things about men who were then taking a

PROMINENT PART

in the war around him:

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., July 29, 1861. DEAR BODGE: * * * As I have nothing of especial importance to tell you about, I suppose you would not object to hearing something of the personalities of the men who are making history in this State. Lyon, as you know, I have been intimately acquainted with since the Mexican war. We both belong to the same regiment—the old 3d Inf. We served in California together, and went around the Horn in the ship *Rome* in '48. I have had an excellent opportunity of knowing him well, and consider him a man of great ability. He is intensely active and patriotic, and when his mind is made up acts with great decision and promptness. His strong anti-slavery feelings make him cordially hated by the rebels.

When the situation in the latter part of '60 looked toward war, he and Capt. W. M. Gardiner, "of ours," frequently had violent discussions as to what they would do if hostilities broke out. These discussions invariably wound up by Gardiner saying, with great vehemence: "Well, Lyon, if we ever do come to blows, I will surely join the South, and if I ever meet you in battle, then, by—! I'll draw a bead on you and shoot you like a dog!"

Of course, Lyon returned the compliment by saying that he would do the same, and I have no doubt he would, for he is as far as he is loyal. He will make a name for himself before this war is over, as sure as my name is Sweeney.

Gen. Wm. S. Harney I am also well acquainted with, having known him in Mexico, and also served as his Aid in the Sioux war of 1855, '56, at Fort Pierre, N. T. He is a man of splendid physique, tall, stands six feet four, as did Washington and Scott, as straight as an arrow, and very dignified in manner. Though a Southerner by birth he is loyal to the backbone.



DEATH OF GEN. LYON.

He has now been in the Army about 40 years, and has the reputation of being one of the ablest officers in the service, and of being a strict disciplinarian who visits offenders with swift and condign punishment. An anecdote will illustrate this characteristic: Just previous to the firing upon Fort Brown, Tex., which opened the Mexican war, an artilleryman, named O'Reilly—one of the best in the service—deserted and joined the Mexicans. Shortly after the breaking out of the war a number of men deserted and joined the enemy. Some 30 or more of these deserters were captured at the battle of Chapultepec fighting in the enemy's ranks. They fought with the courage born of desperation, as they well knew that if captured they would be hanged, and preferred death by the bullet to death by the rope.

These men were turned over to Col. Harney for punishment. He had them tried by drum-head court-martial, when they were sentenced to be executed in accordance with the articles of war; with the exception of O'Reilly, who, having deserted before the opening of hostilities, could not be executed. He was branded instead.

The others were stood up on the rear end of wagons, with ropes around their necks. When all was ready, Harney, who superintended the proceedings, addressed them, and said: "Now, my fine fellows, you can stand there until you see that flag—pointing to the Mexican flag on the Citadel of the City of Mexico—hauled down and the Stars and Stripes raised, and then I'll send you all to—!" He was as good as his word. * * *

The following account of the events previous to the battle of Wilson's Creek, and subsequently, are from the diary kept by Sweeney at the time:

ENEMY WERE MOVING

"Shortly after I returned to Springfield from the Forsyth expedition, Gen. Lyon informed me that the

in the direction of Springfield in three columns, and that it was his intention to march out and attack the columns in detail and destroy them before they could concentrate their forces.

"About the 1st of August we moved out on the Fayetteville road and struck the advance guard of the enemy at Dug Springs, when, after a sharp skirmish, compelling him to fall back, we pursued him to McCull's Store, 26 miles from Springfield, where, on the morning of the 4th of August, a council of war was held, which decided upon returning to Springfield.

"The enemy followed us up as we fell back and took up a strong position on Wilson's Creek, 10 miles south of Springfield, and commenced firing."

Here is a letter written at this time from Springfield:

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Aug. 7, 1861. FRIEND BODGE: Yours of the 29th came to hand yesterday. The last time I wrote to you was after my return from Forsyth on an expedition against the rebels of that place. I enclosed to you my official report of the affair. You will perceive that a person by the name of Capt. Jackson is mentioned as among the killed.

of the enemy. I have his sword, the only trophy of the expedition I brought with me. You must not think I am talking of the notorious "Clab" Jackson. Oh, no! but just a great a rascal, I bring a fellow who killed several Union men in that part of the country.

We left here on the 1st in hopes of meeting with the enemy, who, we were informed, was advancing on this place in three different directions. The column I was with took the Texas road, having learned that the main body was coming that way. We fell into his advance-guard about 20 miles from here, and after a smart skirmish with part of the 2d Inf., under Capt. Fred Steele and Lieut. Lethrop, they were scattered like a flock of sheep by a charge of cavalry headed by Capt. D. S. Stanley and Lieut. Kelly, of the 1st Cav. They lost between 20 and 30 killed and 50 or 60 wounded; while our loss consisted of four killed and six wounded. Our wounded are doing very well.

I cannot help mentioning the name of Serg't Sullivan, of the cavalry, who received three balls in his body, and the horse he rode 13 wounds. He says he hopes he'll live to play "Yankee Doodle" yet among the scoundrels with his carbine and his saber, and it is my opinion if he does he'll make them dance "Juba." He is a gallant fellow, and deserves a commission.

Well, after driving their advance-guard on the main body, we had to turn back, after getting within three miles of the latter, for want of supplies; besides, we were afraid to advance much farther south for fear they would get in our rear and cut us off from our base of operations, which their great superiority in cavalry would enable them to do. So we returned here on the 5th, having left a part of our command (1,500 men) encamped four miles from here.

The enemy, seeing us turn back, supposed we were retreating through fear, followed us up, drove in the force encamped outside, and are now actually besieging us. They are around us, but I think we can sustain ourselves until succor reach us. The only fear we have is that we will run short of supplies before we are relieved, but we must hope for the best. We would be satisfied if we could only get the rascals to fight us, but they know better than that, for every time we go out to meet them they run off. We'll catch them yet one of these fine mornings, see if we don't.

They have about 10,000 men and 12 pieces of artillery, while our force is about half that number of men, with 18 pieces of artillery. Despairing of receiving reinforcements or



DEATH OF GEN. LYON.

supplies in time, Lyon came very near abandoning this place, but better counsels prevailed, and we are now determined to hold on as long as possible, knowing that if we give up this place all will be lost. * * *

T. W. SWEENEY.

We will continue by quotations from the diary: "On the 7th (August) Gen. Lyon, after holding a council of war, at which I was unable to attend, had determined to retreat. Everything was ready—mules in harness, hospital broken up, Quartermaster's stores packed, and only waiting for the order to move—when I went to Headquarters and had a long conversation with him on the rear piazza of the dwelling, during which in as forcible language as I could command pointed out what I considered would be the result of such a step.

"I begged him to hold on a little longer; that Gen. Fremont, as soon as he learned of the importance of our position, must send us reinforcements; that we would lose more men in a retreat of 120 miles at that season of the year than we would in a battle.

"I said we would be in a better condition to cut our way through, even after a defeat, than we would were we to attempt to retreat in the face of an active, powerful, unwhipped enemy, cumbered as we must be with our immense train and the hundreds of refugees who would accompany us.

"Besides, the enemy's superiority in



GEN. T. W. SWEENEY.

cavalry and his better knowledge of the country would

TELL GREATLY AGAINST US.

Gen. Hardee, who was in southwest Missouri, would certainly throw himself in our front at the Gasconade River, and the chances were that we would suffer a crushing defeat, if, indeed, we were not utterly annihilated. Whereas if we held Springfield the enemy could not move on either Jefferson City, Kansas City, or Rolla. If we fell back on either of those points, as we had urged

(the commanders of the Kansas regiments were for falling back on Kansas City, while the Missouri officers were for falling back on Rolla), the others would be exposed.

As the people of that part of the country had fully committed themselves to our cause, to abandon them now could not fail to fill them with disgust



GOV. CLAIBORNE F. JACKSON.

and probably throw them into the scales against us, and Missouri would be irretrievably lost to the Union. With Missouri all of the other border States would certainly go out, and thus the safety of the General Government would be imperiled. I told him that when I arrived in Springfield I had assured the people that I had not only the will but also the power to protect them (see proclamation of July 4), and that if we abandoned them now, without striking a blow, the very worst consequences were, in my opinion, to be apprehended.

"Thus I urged him to remain by appealing to every motive that I thought would influence him, and the last argument that I used was that if he retreated without fighting he would certainly lose all the reputation that he had gained, and ruin the reputation of every officer under his command. I, for one, would solemnly protest against it.

"One of his arguments was that he had not sufficient supplies to wait for reinforcements. I told him that I could collect beef and corn within a radius of three miles around Springfield sufficient to supply his command for three months.

"He thought we might be cut off from water. I told him that the town was surrounded by springs. The very name Springfield indicated that it was built over springs—and that even if we were driven into the plaza, there was not a square foot of ground we stood on that we could not find water by digging 20 feet.

"In reply to a question as to what plan I would adopt, I replied that I

WOULD WAIT PATIENTLY

until the enemy got within easy distance, when I could march out and attack him—surprise him if possible; that the chances were greatly in favor of the attacking party.

"He thought that we would be annihilated if we failed. I told him that I did not think so. That our little army was composed of such material that it could not be demoralized, and even if we were defeated, we would be in a better condition to retreat than we would if we failed to deliver a battle. He decided to fight."

"On the following Friday—Aug. 9—between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening, we marched out to attack the enemy. We bivouacked within three miles of his camp that night, and

ATTACKED HIM AT DAYBREAK

on the morning of Aug. 10. It was a complete surprise. The enemy's camp extended between four and five miles on Wilson's Creek.

"Sigel was sent with two regiments of infantry, a battery of six pieces, and two companies of Regular cavalry by the Fayetteville road; while Lyon, after following the Mount Vernon road for a short distance, struck across the country in a southerly direction, our object being to make the attack on both ends of the camp at the same time.

"Sigel was successful at first, but as soon as the enemy recovered a little from his surprise, and threw a regiment or two against him, his men gave way and fled in every direction, leaving his guns and everything in the hands of the enemy.

"Lyon's column of 3,700 men sustained the fight for six hours against overwhelming numbers, repulsing every attack they made, and driving them from every position they occupied. The charge in which Gen. Lyon was killed was the most desperate made during the day. He fell, pierced through the heart, having been twice wounded previously—in the hand and in the leg.

"I received a wound at the same time, a severe one, the ball still remain-

ing in my thigh. When Lyon was first wounded I noticed the blood on his sleeve, and said to him:

"General, you are hurt, and should be attended to." He replied: "Oh, this is nothing." At the same time Schofield said to him that he should not expose himself so. He replied: "I am only doing my duty."

"When Lyon fell I gave Lieut. Hines, 1st Mo., Lyon's old First Sergeant, orders to remain with the body until it was put into an ambulance; which he did; but I subsequently learned that it was afterwards taken out to make room for a wounded man, probably by someone ignorant of the fact whose body it was. It afterwards received proper care at the hands Mrs. John S. Phelps, the Senator's wife.

"I afterwards learned that the Confederate sharpshooters had photographs of the prominent Union officers in the fight, with special instructions to pick them off. It was probably one of these fellows who fired the bullet that killed Lyon, and the one that struck me in the leg."

FROM MILLIKEN'S BEND TO VICKSBURG.

Narrative of the Part Taken by the 114th Ohio.

BREAKING CAMP.

Hot for Gen. Grant.

THOMPSON'S HILL.

Chasing the Johnnies Over Hill and Dale in Mississippi.

BY M. A. SWEETMAN, CORPORAL, CO. K, 114TH OHIO, CINCINNATI, O.

(To be continued.)

THE STAR BRIGADE.

Its Charge at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

IRA D. BATES.

The heavens seemed lit up with fire, and the earth seemed to be in flames. The stars were shining brightly, and the moon was full. The air was thick with smoke, and the ground was covered with blood. The soldiers were fighting bravely, and the enemy was being driven back. The battle was going well for the Union forces.

As if a score of thunder bolts were hurled into the air, the lightning flashed, and the rain fell. The soldiers were fighting bravely, and the enemy was being driven back. The battle was going well for the Union forces.

Yet onward like an avalanche, the Union forces pressed forward. The soldiers were fighting bravely, and the enemy was being driven back. The battle was going well for the Union forces.

Onward charged the Union forces. The soldiers were fighting bravely, and the enemy was being driven back. The battle was going well for the Union forces.

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